

31 August 1983

With respect to the issue of Executive Branch use of polygraph examinations, the House Judiciary Subcommittee on Civil and Constitutional Rights and the Post Office and Civil Service Subcommittee on Civil Service intend to hold another joint hearing on NSDD 84, which hearing will address the use of polygraphs by this Agency. This hearing will be held in executive session, and thus will not be open to the public. No definitive date has yet been set for this hearing.

In addition, the 1984 Department of Defense (DOD) Authorization Act contains a provision which prohibits the use of polygraph examinations in cases of civilian employees of DOD or members of the armed forces in any manner or to any extent greater than what was permitted under existing regulations in effect as of 5 August 1982. This provision would freeze, until 15 April 1984, DOD's present use of polygraphs and would effectively prevent implementation of NSDD 84 at DOD. This provision does, however, exempt the National Security Agency of DOD from this freeze. The Conference Report indicates that the conferees expect the Senate Committee on Armed Services and the SSCI to hold hearings prior to 15 April 1984 on the use of polygraph examinations at DOD.

